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Food and

NEWSLETTER

## PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT...

### Income Poverty Guidelines

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**NATIONAL INCOME POVERTY GUIDELINES** for determining children's eligibility for free or reduced-price lunches under the National School Lunch Program and in other school lunch programs receiving federally-donated foods were announced August 4 by Secretary of Agriculture Clifford M. Hardin.

After January 1, 1971, any child from a family with an income at or below the national income poverty guidelines shall be served a lunch, either free or at a reduced price (not to exceed 20 cents), in a school that is receiving Federal school lunch cash or commodity assistance. Required by P.L. 91-248 (signed into law on May 14, 1970), the guidelines may be used voluntarily by schools as their income criteria until January 1, when adoption becomes mandatory. Private schools with programs administered by the Department of Agriculture are exempt from these guidelines under certain conditions. The guidelines are:

Total <u>Family Size</u>	48 States, D.C. and <u>Outlying Areas*</u>	Hawaii	Alaska
One	\$1,920	\$2,210	\$2,400
Two	\$2,520	\$2,900	\$3,150
Three	\$3,120	\$3,590	\$3,900
Four	\$3,720	\$4,280	\$4,650
Five	\$4,270	\$4,910	\$5,340
Six	\$4,820	\$5,540	\$6,025
Seven	\$5,320	\$6,115	\$6,650
Eight	\$5,820	\$6,690	\$7,275
For each additional family member	Add \$450	Add \$520	Add \$560

\* "Outlying areas" include Guam, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Virgin Islands, American Samoa, and the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

These guidelines will apply for the fiscal year ending June 30, 1971. Guidelines for future fiscal years will be announced as soon as possible after July 1.

**THE NUMBER OF NEEDY PERSONS** in USDA family food assistance programs is estimated at 10.4 million in June, with 6.3 million taking part in the Food Stamp Program and 4.1 million in the Commodity Distribution Program. The number of persons participating in the Food Stamp Program in June 1970 was nearly double a year ago. Payments of "bonus coupons" to participating families also climbed during

(continued on next page)

June to an estimated total of \$90 million as compared with the \$21.6 million worth of bonus coupons issued in June of last year. For the 1970 fiscal year ending June 30, 1970, payments of bonus coupons to participating families totaled an estimated \$547 million, a gain of 139 percent over the \$228.8 million in bonus coupons paid to families in fiscal year 1969. The geographic area in which family food assistance programs are available also increased during the fiscal year 1970. As of July 1, 1969, a total of 410 counties and independent cities still were not taking part in the program, and had no plans to do so. This figure has now been reduced to 14 counties and one independent city.

## AROUND THE NATION...

HURRICANE CELIA. Supplies from Government food programs are being used to aid the victims of Hurricane Celia, which hit the coast at Corpus Christi, and tore across Texas. Donated foods are helping to feed victims temporarily housed in schools and other emergency shelters, and will be available to help families get back on their feet as they return to their homes. A big boon to this reconstruction effort will be the fact that--thanks to the commitment to extend food programs to all areas--Government food assistance is now available in all the counties in Texas.

SELF-SERVICE CENTERS. Recipients of donated foods are now serving themselves at distribution centers in two Virginia counties (Sussex and Amherst). At the centers, which are maintained like a supermarket, they select foods from available stocks. Grocery carts are available for their use. After making their selections, they go through a checkout counter. Center employees sack the foods for them. These centers are located in Waverly (Sussex) and Madison Heights (Amherst).

RICH SQUARE ELEMENTARY SCHOOL'S lunchroom (in Northhampton County, N.C.) seats only a third of the student body but they managed to serve breakfast to more than half of the students each morning. The simple menu provided for presweetened cereal, milk and juice to meet USDA breakfast standards. For added calories and essential nutrients, a sandwich was also served. It requires no cooking or dishwashing, a necessary boon considering the school's small kitchen. A teacher's aide and three fifth-grade girls served about 200 of these breakfasts in half an hour, with no loss of classroom time and no teacher supervision. Those who could afford it pay some or all of the 15-cent cost. Needy children get their breakfast free. Teachers report a marked improvement in the student grades as well as an increase in attendance.

SPRINGFIELD AND SANGAMON COUNTY (Illinois) Community Action Agencies have contracted with a local bus company for a three-month experimental test. The buses, operating on peak sales days, will pick up participants at housing centers, neighborhood centers, and high-rise apartments and take them to Food Stamp issuing offices.

MIGRANT WORKERS' CHILDREN -- in New Jersey get a nutritious breakfast, lunch and mid-afternoon snack in school cafeterias while attending a 6-week summer school. Some 4,000 children of migrant workers attend the 19 schools used in the State-directed Migrant Programs. USDA's Special Food Service Program assists with donated foods and cash in the school cafeterias staffed by the regular school food service personnel. Breakfast includes two hot meals a week such as eggs or oatmeal. Other mornings may offer a dry cereal with milk and juice. A typical lunch may include a sloppy joe, macaroni salad, lima beans, bread and butter and milk. For extra energy, between-meals boxed raisins are served for eating out of hand.

ALL 20 BUTTE, MONTANA, schools will be offering hot lunches to their 10,000 students this coming September. Before, only one school had been in the lunch program. With help from USDA's nonfood assistance program and the Model Cities Program, the school district was able to equip two junior highs and one senior high with food service equipment and facilities. Meals are prepared at these schools and transported to the other "satellite" schools. AT THE TAFT SCHOOL IN BILLINGS, MONT., students participating in a hot lunch program last fall showed significant weight gains and an increase in classroom attendance. The school is one of three on a "satellite" program of hot lunches for disadvantaged students in Billings. Before the program, teachers report that some children brought almost nothing for lunch or a bread and butter sandwich; one child bought only a bag of popcorn each day.

FOODMOBILE. In Tennessee, the Memphis-Shelby County Health Department is operating a foodmobile to make rural deliveries of supplemental foods. This will benefit an additional 500 to 600 mothers and infants. In Wisconsin, Dane and Sauk Counties are now using buses to get donated foods to needy families. This method has proved very successful in the City of New London (Wisc.).

A 2-YEAR STUDY at Rutgers University, financed by the USDA, OEO, and the State of New Jersey is aimed at developing more effective Federal-State school lunch and breakfast programs. Feeding operation tests will be conducted to measure the acceptability of new foods and new combinations of foods and to ensure the design of efficient food delivery systems. A MEETING with 100 representatives of the food industry was held at Rutgers to discuss the project and its requirements. Those interested were asked to submit a letter describing their foods, packaging, and food service items for evaluation.

## PEOPLE TO PEOPLE...

TEEN CORPS OF AMERICA, INC., used USDA donated foods to help feed their 110 volunteers to Appalachia for this year's three-week work session. The Minnesota-based nonprofit service corps sends high-school volunteers to work with the people of Handshoe, Salt Lick, Decoy, Rock Fork, and other villages in Kentucky, and Tennessee. Together they tackle such projects as repairing roads, building bridges, setting-up lunchroom programs for children, founding community centers, providing dental care, building churches, establishing vocational training--all according to local needs.

NUNS FROM SANTA CLARA CONVENT are conducting cooking classes for donated-food recipients in Oxnard, California. The classes are offered in English and Spanish and are promoted by a local Spanish-language radio station. Juanita School provides facilities; the local welfare department furnishes the food; and the nuns also provide transportation, babysitting service, and teenage entertainment.

MEALS ON WHEELS in Greenville County, S.C., visit 120 of the county's elderly poor every weekday. With help from the County Council for Community Action and USDA-donated foods, the meals are prepared in the kitchen of the Westminster Presbyterian Church. There are six paid staff members and many volunteers. The volunteers take the meals to the aged, many of whom live by themselves in isolated areas.

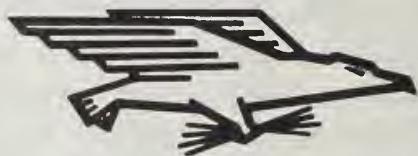
PROJECT CROSSLINES, a CAP volunteer program in Dubuque, Delaware, and Jackson Counties, Iowa, will train community members to work in local agencies serving low-income families. Among other duties, they will assist families in applying for the Food Stamp Program, by driving to issuance centers, and with budgeting and meal preparations.

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A 26-MEMBER CITIZENS' PANEL to survey food and nutrition programs in the District of Columbia has been set up by Mayor Walter E. Washington. John Price, special assistant to President Nixon, and Richard E. Lyng, Assistant Secretary of Agriculture, attended swearing-in ceremonies for the commission, which is a direct outgrowth of the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition and Health.

## INFO AND EDUCATION...

STUDENTS OF OKLAHOMA COLLEGE OF LIBERAL ARTS conducted an educational project on the use of Government-donated foods, during their five-week independent study period -- as a follow up to the White House Conference on Food, Nutrition, and Health. The students worked with Day Care and Head Start Centers in nearby Chickasha and surrounding areas, as well as Riverside Indian School, Anadarko High School vocational home economics adult education program, and the home management house on OCLA campus. To encourage good use of donated foods the students planned family meals, tried out new recipes for recipients to sample and developed tips on buying food to supplement donated commodities. They worked with cooks in the children's centers on a food demonstration for the parents of the children.

MRS. BERTHA F. OLSEN, CHIEF of the Technical Services Branch of the Child Nutrition Division, Food and Nutrition Service, retired July 31 after serving the U.S. Department of Agriculture for 27 years. In FNS, she has formulated and recommended policies pertaining to nutritional aspects of USDA food programs. Preparing nutritional data and materials on requirements for child feeding programs have been a major part of Mrs. Olsen's responsibility. JOHN J. SLAUGHTER retired, on July 31, as Southwest Regional Director of the Food and Nutrition Service. A veteran of 35 years and 9 months of USDA service, Mr. Slaughter served more than 30 of them in the Southwest.

OVERFLOWING CROWDS of low-income homemakers attended a five-session Food Management Series offered by the Northern Utah FSP Nutrition Education Committee. Babysitting service, provided by a local high school's Home Living class, greatly increased the participation of young mothers, whom the Committee especially hoped to reach.

FOOD AND NUTRITION NEWSLETTER. This is the No. 5 issue of the Newsletter. Earlier issues were:

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|---------|----------|
| No. 1   | April 1  |
| No. 2   | April 27 |
| ✓ No. 3 | May 28   |
| No. 4   | July 16  |